



THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC



DEC 19 2014

Major General Joseph R. Vazquez, CAP
National Commander
105 South Hansell St.
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Dear General Vazquez:

On behalf of your fellow Airmen, we would like to convey our deepest appreciation to the citizen volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol for your contributions as our Auxiliary in the past, present and future. The Civil Air Patrol's service continues to build upon the heritage established by the heroic actions and sacrifice of volunteers in World War II.

In the history of our great Nation, Congress has awarded the Congressional Gold Medal only 154 times on behalf of the American people. Airmen such as Billy Mitchell, Ira Eaker, the Tuskegee Airmen, World War II Women Air Force Service Pilots, American Fighter Aces and the Doolittle Raiders were recipients of this incredible honor. Now, the World War II Volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol have been so honored. We are truly humbled by their deeds and legacy, whose driving force was simply to serve their country in its time of need.

We could not ask for more dedicated Wingmen than the men and women of the Civil Air Patrol who truly embrace the ideal of "Semper Vigilans" -- Always Vigilant!

Deborah Lee James
Secretary of the Air Force

Mark A. Welsh III
General, USAF
Chief of Staff